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**Minutes / summary of the Boulevard Planning Group
Meeting held on October 2, 2008**

San Diego County
DEPT. OF PLANNING & LAND USE

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM. Members present: Marilyn Polen, Pat Stuart, Jeffrey McKernan, Donna Tisdale, Bill Parsons, and Chris Noland. Members absent: Darlene Koczka (excused due to illness). A motion was made *M/S: Noland/Stuart: 6-0-0 to accept the minutes for both the regular meeting on Sept 4th and the special meeting on Sept. 25th*. Correspondence: A letter from Rodney and Almeda Starkey at Bar S R Ranch, was read. The Chair stated that the Starkey's request that the Group *retain the current Agricultural Goal* in the Goals and Policy's section of the community plan, appeared to be in line with the current direction of the Group. There were no objections.

5A. DARK SKIES: Bob Austin, amateur astronomer and photographer and current president of the 500 member San Diego Astronomy Association (SDAA), and Jim Traweek, manager of their Tierra Del Sol Observatory, came to discuss Boulevard's valuable dark sky resources. Star photos that were taken at the local observatory were presented. It was reported that they have NASA equipment onsite for research purposes. They handed out International Dark - Sky Association pamphlets and stressed the importance of preventing light pollution. Sodium Vapor lights are especially bad for dark sky protection and virtually impossible to shield due to the spectrum. The SDAA offers assistance in swapping out light fixtures. There are only two designated Dark Sky communities, including Borrego which is still unofficial. The Board and those present expressed support for Dark Sky community designation and a willingness to work towards that goal. *No action was taken.*

5B. PARK LAND DEDICATION ORDINANCE: In response to the County's request on the five year PLDO priority list the Chair proposed to reject the previous unsuccessful list and to place the purchase of 18.4 acres on Ribbonwood Road for the purpose of a new multi-use community center with a kitchen. Other potential uses could include: emergency shelter, day care, adult care, library, small museum. There was enthusiastic support with additional ideas including: staging area for new non-motorized trail system, small neighborhood equestrian events, staging area for bicycle groups and more. *M/S: McKernan/Parsons: 6-0-0: Submit a request to purchase the 18.4 acre parcel on Ribbonwood Road.*

5C. NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR TWO -4-LOT MINOR SUBDIVISIONS: TPM20777, GARZA & TPM20784 BENNETT; LOCATED AT 1270 AND 1268 SHASTA WAY: Group member, McKernan, recused himself due the fact that his property and private road are directly impacted by the proposed project(s). The Chair gave a brief review of the project history and the third TPM for Powell that had previously been included in the process—all of which were being processed as a Minor Subdivision when they clearly represent a Major Subdivision. There was a discussion and review of new maps, including the fire access road. Concerns were raised regarding the connection of the newly proposed fire access road to another private road (Vista Del Cielo), apparently without the legally required permission of the roads owners or deeded easements. *M/S: Polen/Stuart: 6-0-0. Send a letter addressing all concerns.*

5D: COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE: The Chair reported that the Vision Statement had been revised to incorporate issues raised at the previous meeting. It was approved at the Sept 25th Special meeting and submitted to the County on the Sept. 30th deadline. At the same Sept 25th meeting an incomplete draft of the History Section was reviewed. The general tone and content was supported. A consensus was reached that the History Section would be withheld and the chair would continue drafting the document based on the research material displayed, and more.

OLD BUSINESS AND UPDATES:

6.A. SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS (SVP): Pat Stuart provided handouts. L. Ostrander reported on all the benefits the SVPs get at public expense, including AC, free housing, medical, and more. A discussion was held on the upcoming court hearing on October 30th in downtown San Diego, and the reported consideration of more SVP placement

in Boulevard. The Chair reported including the issue/information in a letter to the newly elected Campo tribal leadership asking them to distribute the information and to help oppose the placement of SVPs in our rural communities.

B. BLM DOWNGRADES OF VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION TO ACCOMMODATE WIND AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PRODUCTION AND MINING: The Chair reported that the Record of Decision was still pending.

C. SUNRISE POWERLINK RECIRCULATED DEIR/EIS: It was reported that political pressure to avoid Anza Borrego State Park would most likely result in the selection of the Southern route through the Boulevard/McCain Valley area.

D. 200 MW INDUSTRIAL WIND ENERGY PROPOSED FOR MCCAIN VALLEY: The controversial Oct 7th meeting with Iberdrola and Sierra Club in Mission Valley was discussed, as was the lack of a meeting in Boulevard. Iberdrola/PPM Energy is working on their revised Plan of Development.

E. SEMPRA'S BAJA WIND PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT APPLICATION FOR CROSS-BORDER 500 KV LINE AT JACUMBA (DOE docket no.PP-334): No new information was available. DOE decision is pending on public requests for a full EIS rather than the proposed Environmental Assessment.

F.SDG&E'S PROPOSED ECO SUBSTATION AND 14 MILES OF NEW TRANSMISSION LINE REQUIRED FOR WIND GENERATION PROJECTS: SDG&E reported that they have not filed their application for this project with the CPUC. After field surveys, the route had to be adjusted. Negotiations with property owners has not started.

G. GOLDEN ACORN CASINO: Project on hold.

H. CAMPO LANDFILL: Supplemental EIS is pending release for public comment

I. GENERAL PLAN UPDATE: Along with the community plan update, the Draft Revisions to Public Road Standards are out for review and will be on the November 6th agenda.

J. TRAIL SYSTEM: Rett Lawrence presented the ad-hoc Trail Subcommittee's proposed non-motorized trails map using existing trails and right of ways. While there are outstanding access issues that the County will need to address, there was enthusiastic support for the trail concept and connecting with other trail systems, including the Trans-county trail north of the Manzanita tribal lands, near Lost Valley Road, and connection to the Anza Borrego Desert State Park. There was also support for using the proposed multi-use community center property as a staging area for equestrian mountain bike events. *M/S: Polen/Stuart: 6-0-0 Accept the draft non-motorized trail plan as presented.*

K. MULTIPLE SPECIES CONSERVATION PLAN (MSCP) FOR EAST COUNTY: The proposed list of 250 species is expected to be reduced due to software problems dealing with all of the private, state, federal and tribal lands in the area.

L. WEST-WIDE ENERGY CORRIDOR: No new information

M. LANSING COMPANIES: No new information on development plans other than what was revealed in the civil case Smith Capital v Lansing Companies (# 37-2008-0006173) and alleged plans to sell to over 7,000 acres to SDG&E for industrial wind energy production.

N. INVENERGY WIND: Invenergy rep, Brit Coupens attended the 9/24 Board of Supervisors hearing but would not talk to a news reporter or provide his name. Two Boulevard property owners have signed lease wind energy agreements.

O. PROPOSED CHANGES FOR METEOROLOGICAL (MET) TOWERS FOR WIND ENERGY TESTING: The Chair reported on the September 24th Board of Supervisor hearing for the proposed elimination of the Major Use Permit requirement for met towers, promoted by Invenergy and others: The agenda item was called, "*Giving the Green Light to Renewable Energy in San Diego County*" This is believed to be the first step in changing the rules to allow industrial wind turbines on private property. Speaking in support were Supervisors Horn and Roberts, Iberdrola Renewables, SDG&E, an engineer from Northern Arizona University who installs met towers, consultant Michael Stevens who has worked for Big Country Ranch and Rough Acres Ranch projects, one local property owners with an Invenergy lease agreement, and Richard Caputo from Julian. Donna Tisdale spoke against the proposal. Supervisor Cox supported streamlining the process. Supervisor Jacob objected and delayed the decision. The County staff is to report back in 120 days with a list of all the options including Minor and Major Use and Administrative Permits. Jacob made a point that turbines, under 80 feet in height, are now allowed by right, provided they comply with all of the setback and other restrictions. **There was no public comment and the meeting was adjourned.**

Minutes submitted by: _____ Donna Tisdale, Chair 10-27-08